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Reply to Office Action of 23 November 2005

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(currently amended)** A carrying bag for placement on a floor by a user, comprising use on a accessory, the bag having a bottom, comprised of:  
a bottom external surface; and  
a foldable mat attached to the bottom external surface and comprising panels of  
an at least semi-rigid nature, the panels adapted to provide an unfolded configuration  
having an upper surface for the user to stand on or to place articles upon and an  
opposing lower surface to contact the floor carrying bag; and  
retainers for holding the said mat in a retained folded configuration below the  
bottom external surface [:]]  
~~wherein said mat is adapted to be unfolded to provide a first surface upon which~~  
~~the a user may stand or place articles to be protected from the contaminated surfaces~~  
~~and a second surface for lying on the contaminated surfaces.~~
2. **(currently amended)** The [[A]] carrying bag of accessory according to claim 1,  
wherein said foldable mat is adapted to be folded so as to prevent cross-contamination of  
said first surface with a soiled second surface.
3. **(cancelled)**
4. **(currently amended)** The [[A]] carrying bag of accessory according to claim 1,  
wherein ~~the said foldable mat comprises three panels, is comprised of a first, second,~~  
~~and third panel, wherein said the first panel being [[is]] attached to the bottom external~~  
~~surface of the carrying bag, and the said second panel being hingedly is hingeably~~  
~~attached along side edges to the said first panel and to the third panel, and~~  
~~wherein the upper surface portions of the second and third panels are in inwardly~~  
~~facing relationship to each other when the mat is in the folded configuration said third~~  
~~panel is hingeably attached to said second panel, and wherein said panels are~~  
~~detachably retained by magnets when in the folded state and wherein said foldable mat is~~

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~~adapted to be folded so as to prevent cross-contamination of said first surface with a soiled second surface.~~

5. **(currently amended)** A sanitary mat for placement on a floor by a user, in combination use with a bag having a bottom portion, comprising:

a plurality of panels of an at least semi-rigid nature, the panels adapted to provide an unfolded configuration having an upper surface adjacent the bag for the user to stand on or to place articles upon and an opposing lower surface to contact the floor;

wherein one of the panels is adapted to be attached to the bottom portion of the bag in both the unfolded configuration and retainers for holding said mat in a retained folded configuration [[:]]

a mat attached to the bottom portion of the bag;

wherein said mat is in a retracted state under the bottom portion of the bag;

wherein said mat is adapted so that at least a portion of said mat can be detracted from the bottom portion of the bag to a position adjacent the bag for use;

wherein said mat has a bottom portion for resting on a floor; and

wherein said mat has a top portion for standing or placing articles on.

6. **(currently amended)** The [[A]] sanitary mat according to claim 5, wherein:

the plurality of panels consists of three panels,

the first panel being adapted to be attached to the bottom portion of the bag, and

the second panel being hingedly attached along side edges to the first panel and to the third panel,

wherein the upper surface portions of the second and third panels are in inwardly facing relationship to each other when the mat is in the folded configuration

said mat is further comprised of:

a first panel portion attached to the bottom portion of the bag having a first side and a second side;

a second panel portion attached to said first panel portion having a first side and a second side;

a third panel portion attached to said second panel portion having a first side and a second side.

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7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) The [[A]] sanitary mat according to claim 5 [[6]], wherein the panels in said retracted state, said first, second and third panel portions are stacked on top of each other in the folded configuration under the bottom portion of the bag.

9. (currently amended) The [[A]] sanitary mat according to claim 5 [[6]] wherein the panels are in adjacent planar relationship on the floor in the unfolded configuration in said detracted state said second and third panel portions are adjacent the bottom portion of the bag and adapted to lay flat on a floor surface.

10 (currently amended) The [[A]] sanitary mat according to claim 5 [[6]], further comprising magnets arranged on the panels to retain the panels in the folded configuration wherein in said retracted state, said first, second and third panel portions are detachably attached with magnets.

11. (currently amended) The [[A]] sanitary mat according to claim 5 [[6]], further comprising a tab portion on a side edge of one attached to a length of said third panel portion, said tab portion adapted to be grabbed or stepped on.

12. (currently amended) The [[A]] sanitary mat according to claim 5, wherein the lower surface said bottom portion of said mat does not cross-contaminate the upper surface said top portion of said mat in either the folded or unfolded configuration said retracted or detracted states.

Claims 13-14 (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) The [[A]] carrying bag of claim 1 accessory according to claim 13, wherein said mat is removably attached to the bag.

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16. (currently amended) The [[A]] carrying bag of claim 1 accessory according to  
claim 13, wherein the panels are integrally formed ~~said mat is of a single piece~~  
~~construction.~~

17. (cancelled)

18 (new) The carrying bag of claim 2, wherein the mat comprises three panels, the first panel being attached to the bottom external surface, and the second panel being hingedly attached along side edges to the first panel and to the third panel,

wherein the upper surface portions of the second and third panels are in inwardly facing relationship to each other when the mat is in the folded configuration.

19. (new) The carrying bag of claim 1, wherein the retainers for holding the mat in the folded configuration comprise magnets.

20. (new) The carrying bag of claim 18, wherein the retainers for holding the mat in the folded configuration comprise magnets.

21. (new) The carrying bag of claim 1, wherein the mat is fixedly attached to the bag such that a first panel of the mat serves as the bottom of the bag and the lower surface of the first panel is the bottom external surface.